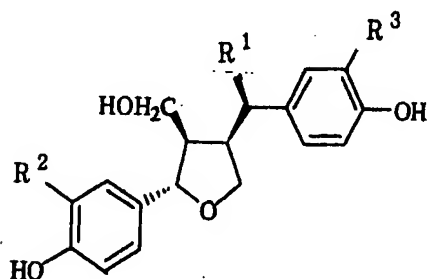


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Listing of claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. A ~~drug~~ hypoglycaemic agent comprising a compound shown in the formula (1)



(1)

(wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a hydrogen or a hydroxyl group, R<sup>2</sup> is either an alkyloxy group or a hydroxyl group, both with the carbon number of 1 to 4 and R<sup>3</sup> is an alkyloxy group with the carbon number of 1 to 4) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester of said compound in the formula (1) as an effective ingredient.

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9. (New) A hepatoprotective agent comprising said compound shown in the formula (1) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester of said compound in the formula (1) as an effective ingredient.